

--CLAIM OF BENEFIT TO PRIOR APPLICATIONS

B1

This application is a continuation application of United States Patent Application entitled "Method and Apparatus for Considering Diagonal Wiring in Placement," filed on December 6, 2000, and having the Serial No. 09/731,891.--

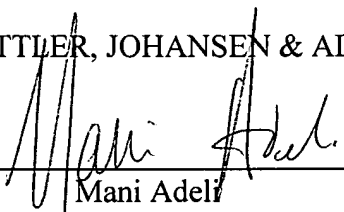
REMARKS

This Second Preliminary Amendment supplies the serial number of the parent application in the claim of benefit. The original claim of benefit was included in the first Preliminary Amendment that was submitted with the application.

Respectfully submitted,

STATTLER, JOHANSEN & ADELI LLP

Dated: January 16, 2002



Mani Adeli
Reg. No. 39,585

Stattler, Johansen & Adeli LLP
P.O. Box 51860
Palo Alto, CA 94303-0728
Phone: (650) 934-0470 x102
Fax: (650) 934-0475